

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method performed by a server for directing a subsequent update of a store, the method
2 comprising:
3 a step for parsing a provided template according to a markup language, the template
4 including a start tag comprising an attribute value, parsing being performed to determine a value
5 name from the attribute value;
6 a step for preparing a key comprising the value name;
7 a step for preparing a request comprising a portion of the template after substituting the
8 key for at least the attribute value; and
9 a step for providing the request to a client of the server.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1 further for updating the store, the method further comprising:
2 a step for parsing a message received from the client, the message comprising the key and
3 an update value; and
4 a step for updating the store in accordance with the update value at a record accessed in
5 accordance with the key.
- 1 3. The method of claim 2 wherein the markup language is consistent with XML.
- 1 4. The method of claim 3 wherein the key comprises first indicia identifying a group of records
2 of the store, second indicia identifying a subgroup of the group, and third indicia identifying a
3 record of the subgroup.
- 1 5. The method of claim 4 wherein:
2 the record comprises a first field, a second field, and a third field, wherein the first field
3 comprises a first value, the second field comprises a second value; and the third field comprises a
4 third value; and
5 the key comprises the first value, the second value, and the third value.

1 6. The method of claim 4 wherein the key comprises a result of concatenation of the first
2 indicia, the second indicia, and the third indicia.

1 7. The method of claim 6 wherein the message further comprises a parameter name and a
2 parameter value, the parameter name comprising the key.

1 8. The method of claim 7 wherein:
2 the store comprises a plurality of value names and a corresponding plurality of named
3 values;
4 the value name is a member of the plurality of value names; and
5 the step for updating further comprises a step for assigning the update value as the named
6 value corresponding to the value name.

1 9. The method of claim 8 wherein:
2 the step for parsing to determine a value name comprises a step for parsing the attribute
3 value according to the markup language to determine a second start tag and a second attribute
4 value; and
5 the value name is determined in accordance with the second attribute value.

1 10. The method of claim 9 wherein the step for parsing to determine a value name comprises:
2 a step for parsing the attribute value according to the markup language to determine a
3 second start tag; and
4 a step for parsing the second start tag to determine a second attribute value, a third
5 attribute value, and a fourth attribute value; wherein the value name is determined in accordance
6 with the second attribute value, the third attribute value, and the fourth attribute value.

1 11. A computer readable medium comprising indicia of the method of claim 10.

1 12. A server comprising:

means for parsing a template according to a markup language, the markup language having a start tag comprising an attribute value, parsing being performed to determine a value name from the attribute value;
means for preparing a key comprising the value name;
means for preparing a request comprising a portion of the template after substituting the key for at least the attribute value;
means for providing the request to a client of the server.

13. The server of claim 12 further comprising:

means for storing a record;
means for receiving a message comprising a key and an update value; and
means for updating the record accessed in accordance with the key.

14. The server of claim 13 wherein the markup language is consistent with XML.

15. The server of claim 14 wherein the key comprises first indicia identifying a group of records of the means for storing, second indicia identifying a subgroup of the group, and third indicia identifying one record of the subgroup.

16. The server of claim 15 wherein:

the record comprises a first field, a second field, and a third field, wherein the first field comprises a first value, the second field comprises a second value; and the third field comprises a third value; and
the key comprises the first value, the second value, and the third value.

17. The server of claim 16 wherein the key comprises a result of concatenation of the first indicia, the second indicia, and the third indicia.

18. The server of claim 17 wherein the message further comprises a parameter name and a parameter value, the parameter name comprising the key.

1 19. The server of claim 18 wherein:
2 the means for storing comprises a plurality of value names and a corresponding plurality
3 of named values;
4 the value name is a member of the plurality of value names; and
5 the means for updating further comprises means for assigning the update value as the
6 named value corresponding to the value name.

1 20. The server of claim 19 wherein:
2 the means for parsing to determine a value name comprises means for parsing the
3 attribute value according to a markup language to determine a second start tag and a second
4 attribute value; and
5 the value name is determined in accordance with the second attribute value.

1 21. The server of claim 20 wherein the means for parsing to determine a value name comprises:
2 means for parsing the attribute value according to a markup language to determine a
3 second start tag; and
4 means for parsing the second start tag to determine a second attribute value, a third
5 attribute value, and a fourth attribute value; wherein the value name is determined in accordance
6 with the second attribute value, the third attribute value, and the fourth attribute value.

1 22. A method for updating a record of a store, the method comprising:
2 a step for composing a page to be sent via a network, the page comprising
3 (1) a start tag comprising an attribute value, the attribute value comprising a value
4 name; and
5 (2) at least one named value recalled from the record of the store;
6 a step for decomposing a message received via the network, the message comprising
7 indicia of the value name and a replacement value; and
8 a step for updating the named value of the record in accordance with the replacement
9 value, wherein updating comprises a step for accessing the record in accordance with the indicia
10 of the value name.